

October 6, 1981

Inspection Memo
to Coal File:

#7

RE: Technical Inspection
Co-op Mining Company
Trail Canyon & Bear Canyon Mines
ACT/015/021 and ACT/015/025
Emery County, Utah

On September 30, 1981, Tom Tetting, Wayne Hedberg, Everitt Hooper and Mary Bosworth met with Wendell Owen to tour the above mentioned mine facilities.

Observations began, in both canyons, with the portal locations and ended with the sedimentation ponds. Most facilities and their intended functions were explained by Mr. Owen as many are in the process of being built or redesigned.


Several areas of note in Trail Canyon were discussed. These include; a culvert at the north end of the canyon which was blocked with two to three feet of sediment; the topsoil pile has been driven over by a bulldozer and the containment berm was eroded; coal haul rigs parked on the west side of the canyon have been discharging oil which runs directly into the undisturbed drainage; the material above the spring on the east side of the canyon appears somewhat saturated and may fail as it is composed of sidecast earth and rock; the sedimentation pond is full of sediment and no specified plan to dispose of the fines has been drawn up yet.

The Bear Canyon facilities have been under construction for some time. Coal loadout bins have been installed; the power substation is almost complete; dozer work in the westernmost upper drainage has almost completely rerouted the natural runoff away from the turnaround pad; the face upon the intake portal is ready to cut while no plans were given for disposal of waste rock already produced during excavation; the topsoil pile is practically nonexistent and is eroding into the excavated sedimentation pond.

Alternate methods of reclamation were discussed with Mr. Owen. These concerned the use of soil additives, the design of test plots and included moving the existing soil material away from the pond. What stockpile exists

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now seems to be a futile effort at compliance for compliance sake only and appears to have no technical viability nor usefulness. Suggestions of soil testing, the contracting of a consultant or the use of the Division technical staff to develop an alternate reclamation plan were given.

THOMAS N. TETTING
ENGINEERING GEOLOGIST 

TNT/te

cc: Joe Helfrich
Sandy Pruitt
Tom Ehmett, O.S.M.

Statistics.

Vehicle #EX66853
Miles: 420
4 persons, 2 days = \$300.00
Grant: A&E